

SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

9/6/05

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

SB 335 (JACOBS)

SB 335 would allow children to possess and use an asthma inhaler or epinephrine auto-injector or inhaler at a children's camp.

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 335 [RC 369: 38 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

SB 348 (Cassis)

SB 348 would increase from \$25,000 to \$45,000 the maximum household income of a taxpayer who is eligible to defer the collection of the summer property taxes. It is estimated that the bill would reduce State education tax revenue to the School Aid Fund by approximately \$5.4 million to \$7.3 million in 2005-06. Under these assumptions, the bill would defer approximately \$37.4 million to \$50.1 million in local unit revenue. For local units on a July-to-June fiscal year, this deferral would only affect cash flow, by delaying the receipt of payments from earlier in the fiscal year until later. However, local units on an October-to-September fiscal year, or a fiscal year that matches the calendar year, likely would experience a one-time revenue loss in fiscal year 2005-06.

Support: Michigan Association of Realtors.

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 348 [RC 370: 38 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

HB 4825 (MURPHY)

HB 4825 would amend the Children's Trust Fund act to eliminate that restriction on disbursements. Currently, once the total assets in the fund exceed \$20 million, only the interest and earnings credited to the trust fund are available for disbursement. Instead, up to one-half of the money contributed to the fund each year, and the earnings credited to the fund during the previous fiscal year, would be available for disbursement. The Children's Trust Fund was established by the legislature in 1982 to fund efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect.

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to HB 4825 [RC 371: 38 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

FINAL PASSAGE

HB 4436 (Hummel)

Supplemental budget

- Hardiman 1 was adopted. This would add \$2 million for Katrina disaster assistance.
- Brown 2 was adopted. Appropriates unused funds designed to hire gas station inspectors.
- Johnson 3 was withdrawn.
- Brown 4 was adopted. Disaster assistance.
- Patterson 5 was withdrawn.
- PRUSI 6 was adopted. \$92,000 revenue sharing for PRUSI's district.
- Johnson 7 was adopted. Technical changes.
- HB 4436 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- HB 4436 passed with IE [RC 372: 38 yes, 0 no].

HB 4541 (BYRUM)

HB 4541 would allow members of the general public under certain circumstances to bring alcohol purchased elsewhere into a motorsports entertainment complex for consumption on the complex grounds. The bill would allow drag strips and oval racing tracks without liquor licenses as small as 1,500 seats to allow patrons to bring their own alcoholic beverages as long as the tracks meet certain conditions. Because most motorsports entertainment complexes in the state do not sell alcohol, it has been a longstanding practice for race fans to bring their own alcoholic beverages. Only recently have track owners realized that in permitting this, they are violating a provision of the liquor code that prohibits the consumption of alcoholic beverages on unlicensed premises if the establishment also serves food.

- The vote passing HB 4541 was reconsidered [no RC].
- Hammerstrom 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 4541 passed [RC 373: 38 yes, 0 no].

THIRD READING

SB 648 (BASHAM)

SB 648 would: 1) Rename the Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN) to the Policy Council the Criminal Justice Information Systems Policy Council, 2) Expand the council's membership. 3) Require the council to establish policy and promulgate rules governing information in criminal justice information systems, and advise the Governor on related issues.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- SB 648 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4108 (MAYES)

HB 4108 would require the Agriculture Commission to establish safety and security practices regarding the handling of anhydrous ammonia, and to exempt individuals who maintain anhydrous ammonia in compliance with those standards from tort liability. The bill actually serves two purposes. First, the bill provides for the establishment of safety and security practices for farmers and agri-businesses to employ, not only to protect

anhydrous ammonia for its intended use as a fertilizer, but also to protect against the dangers associated with its the improper handling and transportation. Second, the bill provides that sellers or legal consumers who protect anhydrous ammonia using tank locks or dyes in compliance with the Agriculture Commission's standards, would not be liable for any injury or property damage sustained by a person resulting from the theft or attempted theft of anhydrous ammonia.

Support: Department of Agriculture, Michigan Farm Bureau, Michigan Agri-Business Association.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- HB 4108 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4915 (Jones)

HB 4915 would add "logistical optimization centers" to the list of industrial properties eligible for property tax abatements. A "logistical optimization center" would be defined as a sorting and distribution center that supports an assembly center and its manufacturing process for the purpose of optimizing transportation, just-in-time inventory management, and material handling.

- Birkholz 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- HB 4915 was moved to 3rd Reading.